

## Message Text

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13  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /047 W  
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R 130840Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 816  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2318

E.P. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, CZ, AU  
SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS  
REF: VIENNA 6144

1. DCM HAS ASKED AUSTRIAN DCM PLATTNER HOW HE WOULD  
EVALUATE CURRENT STATE OF CZECHOSLOVAK-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS  
IN WAKE OF RECENT ANTI-COMMUNIST STATEMENTS BY AUSTRIAN  
CHANCELLOR KREISKY AND ALLEGATIONS, CARRIED ON AUSTRIAN  
TV, BY FORMER CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLIGENCE OFFICE JOSEF  
FROLIK THAT CZECH AGENTS HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN SOUTH  
TYROL STRUGGLE OF EARLY 1960'S (REFTEL).

2. PLATTNER THOUGHT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS HAD HAD ONLY  
MARGINALLY ADVERSE EFFECT ON AUSTRIAN-GOC BILATERAL  
RELATIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN LIMITED THROUGHOUT  
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ENTIRE POSTWAR PERIOD -- UNTIL PRAGUE'S DECEMBER

1974 SETTLEMENT OF AUSTRIAN CLAIMS. CURRENT AUSTRIAN-GOC RELATIONS ARE BETTER, IN HIS VIEW, THAN DURING MOST OF THAT NEARLY THIRTY-YEAR SPAN. WHILE PLATTNER SUSPECTS THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS MIGHT BE MORE FORTHCOMING ON CERTAIN ROUTINE ISSUES OF CURRENT INTEREST TO AUSTRIA, IN OTHER RESPECTS RELATIONS ARE BETTER THAN USUAL. FOR EXAMPLE, HE OBSERVED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISM IN AUSTRIA THIS YEAR IS UP APPROXIMATELY 20 PER CENT OVER 1975.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE "SPIRIT OF HELSINKI" HAS ENGENDERED LITTLE OR NO IMPROVEMENT TO DATE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S PERFORMANCE ON THE QUESTIONS OF HUMAN CONTACTS, INFORMATION FLOW, AND CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES INCLUDED IN CSCE "BASKET 3," IT APPEARS THAT CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISM TO MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES, IN ADDITION TO AUSTRIA, IS UP BETWEEN 10 AND 20 PER CENT FROM 1975 LEVELS. US IS UP 14 PERCENT, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY RECORDS, AND UK EMBASSY AS WELL AS OTHER NATO ALLIES HERE TELL US CZECHOSLOVAK TRAVEL TO THEIR COUNTRIES HAS INCREASED BY ABOUT THE SAME PERCENTAGE.

BYRNE

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